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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

January 13, 1926.

F.S.
P-11

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

YUGOSLAVIAN PRUNE SURPLUS REDUCED

Estimates of Yugoslavian prune exports during the current season have now been reduced to 3,400 carloads or approximately 37,500 short tons according to a report dated December 24th received in the Department of Agriculture from Agricultural Commissioner Haas, Vienna. Exports have been estimated previously at not to exceed 4,000 carloads or 44,000 short tons.

Actual exports up to the time of the report were estimated at 2,600 carloads or 28,600 short tons, and stocks remaining in the country at 800 carloads or 8,800 tons. Supplies on the whole were considered liberal. Most of the large prunes have been exported, however, and the stocks remaining in the country consist mainly of small prunes.

Foreign demand during November and the first part of December was relatively weak and exports were small, but at the time of the report demand was increasing, particularly for large prunes. There were numerous complaints during November from foreign purchasers that the prunes had not been properly dried, according to Consul Patton, Belgrade. The Government, as a result, appointed officials to examine prunes destined for export.

Prices of sacked prunes at Belgrade around December 19, according to Commissioner Haas' report, averaged about one half cent per pound above Valjevo prices near the end of October. The Belgrade quotations in cents per pound with the above mentioned Valjevo prices in parentheses, were as follows: Sizes 70/75 per ½ kilo, 5.1 (4.4); 80/85's, 4.8 (4.3); 95/100's, 4.5 (4.2). Some of the difference is probably accounted for by the cost of transportation.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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P-12

April 12, 1926

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

YUGOSLAVIA PRUNE EXPORTS REACHING EARLY ESTIMATES

Prune exports from Yugoslavia for the 5 months September-January 1925-26 amounted to 41,193 short tons, according to cabled advice from G. C. Haas, American Agricultural Commissioner at Vienna. With exports in February and March certain to be small, it is now expected that the final figure for the 1925-26 season will about reach the estimate of 44,000 short tons mentioned earlier in the season. The figure of 37,500 tons reported by Mr. Haas in December and released in our last report, January 13, has proved to be too low, apparently as a result of inaccurate figures for exports up to that date, as the stocks reported seem to have been borne out.

Germany has been the heaviest purchaser of Yugoslavian prunes this season, being credited with about 44 per cent of the Yugoslavian exports figured on the basis of value. The same percentage applied to the volume of exports would indicate exports to Germany of about 18,100 short tons. German import figures show entries of only 15,500 tons of Yugoslavian prunes during the six months September-February. Italy is credited with 16 per cent of the total Yugoslavian exports by value, Czechoslovakia with 14 per cent and other countries with 26 per cent, all figures being for the 5 months September-January.

PRUNES: Exports from Yugoslavia, September-January, 1925-26

Destination	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Sept. - Jan.
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Total	2,998	20,359	9,248	5,302	3,285	41,193
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent *	Per cent *	Per cent *	Per cent *
Germany	a/	a/	27	20	30	44
Italy	a/	a/	22	16	26	16
Czechoslovakia	a/	a/	12	18	b/	14
Austria	a/	a/	b/	b/	13	b/
Others	a/	a/	39	46	21	26
Total	--	--	100	100	100	100

* Figured on the basis of valuation.
a/ Details not available. b/ Included in "Others".

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April 19, 1926.

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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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Germany has been the heaviest purchaser of Yugoslavian prunes this season, the figures on exports from Yugoslavia indicating, on the basis of value, that fully a third of the 41,193 short tons shipped went to that market. German import statistics for the season through January bear out these figures, showing 14,350 short tons of prunes imported from Yugoslavia. Italy took about a sixth of the exports, Italy and Germany together accounting for probably a little more than half of the total shipments. Exports during October, it will be noted, amounted to about half the total for the five months September-January.

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		*	*	*	*	
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Germany	a/	44	27	20	30	
Italy	a/	16	22	16	26	
Czechoslovakia	a/	14	12	18	b/	
Austria	a/	b/	b/	b/	13	
Others	a/	26	39	46	31	
Total ...	--	100	100	100	100	

* Figured on the basis of valuation.
a/ Details not available. b/ Included in "Others".

NOTE: This report is intended to replace one with the same title and number (F.S/P-12) dated April 12, 1926.

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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April 19, 1926

F.S.
P-13

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

WEATHER FAVORABLE IN FOREIGN PRUNE DISTRICTS

Although too early in the year to give any estimate of the coming plum crop in France and Yugoslavia, reports from American Consuls in the producing regions of these countries received in the Department of Agriculture through Trade Commissioner Livengood at Rome, indicate that weather conditions were favorable up to the middle of March.

Mild and fine weather brought out the blossoms of the fruit trees ahead of the regular time in the Lot-et-Garonne, the principal growing region in France, according to Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. The Consul states:

"At the rate at which they were developing they would have reached the blossoming stage about a fortnight earlier than usual. Fortunately for the crop this premature growth was arrested to some extent by a cold spell which set in early in March and has since continued. As the days have been sunny the growth of the trees has still been favored in spite of the coolness at night and fruit trees are now blossoming throughout the region. The plum trees are in good condition at present but the blossoming is undoubtedly a little early and exposes the crop to possible damage from frosts which sometimes occur in the latter part of March or early in April. Last year great damage to the crop resulted from a cold rainy spell which prevailed in the latter part of April. As the blossoming has just commenced on the trees it is much too early to give any predictions concerning the crop. All that can be stated with any degree of reliability is that the blossoming has begun and is slightly earlier than usual. The weather conditions, except that they have produced an early growth have not been unfavorable up to the present."

American Consul K. S. Patton at Belgrade on March 18 reported that:

"Weather conditions are good and there is as yet no reason to look for a smaller crop than that of 1925. The exportable surplus of prunes should be larger this year as there will be a smaller demand for plums to be used in slivovitza distillation.

"The surplus of 1925 prunes now on hand is said to be only 1,100 short tons (1,000 metric tons) divided as follows:

Size	Quantity on hand		Current prices	
			Per kg.	Per lb.
	Metric tons	Short tons	Dinars	Cents
70/75's	50	55	7.0	5.6
80/85's	100	110	6.0	4.8
95/100's	350	385	4.9	3.9
110/120's	500	550	3.6	2.9

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May 12, 1926.

F.S.
P-14

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

YUGOSLAVIAN PRUNE OUTLOOK SATISFACTORY

Although not yet entirely safe from frost damage, prospects for the new Yugoslavia prune crop at the close of April were very satisfactory, according to a cable received in the Department of Agriculture from Agricultural Commissioner Haas in Vienna. The trees came through the winter in good condition and cold March weather prevented early blossoming thereby greatly reducing the frost hazard. Blossoming, which was reported to have been heavy, was finished in the low lying districts by the end of April, and trees were in full bloom in the higher sections. Light night frosts caused some damage to nut trees, but prune trees were not affected, according to Mr. Haas. Diseases were reported as affecting trees in a small area, but the damage up to the end of April was considered insignificant.

While it is still too early to give a reliable estimate of the coming crop the American Consul, K. S. Patton, at Belgrade, considers 880,000 to 935,000 short tons of plums as a fair expectation unless unfavorable conditions develop later, according to a report received in the Department of Agriculture through Mr. Charles A. Livengood, the American Trade Commissioner at Rome. This would be about an average of the 1921-22-23 crops. Present conditions, according to the Consul, indicate that the amount of prunes diverted to the manufacture of brandy during the 1926 season will be much smaller than was the case during 1925. A greater proportion of plums will therefore be dried. This situation results from the fact that the production of brandy from the 1925 prune crop was abnormally heavy because of a short prune crop in 1924. Brandy stocks are now said to be back to normal and the indications are that about the normal 40 per cent of the prune crop will be used for the manufacture of brandy, leaving 40 per cent for dehydrating, and 20 for jam making.

The following statistics were forwarded by Mr. Haas, the American Agricultural Commissioner in Vienna:

PRUNES: Monthly exports from Yugoslavia, September-February, 1925-26

Destination	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Total....	2,997	20,355	9,258	5,304	3,292	1,898
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Germany	a/	44 *	27 *	20 *	30 *	53 *
Italy	a/	16	22	16	26	14
Czechoslovakia	a/	14	12	18	b/	b/
Austria	a/	b/	b/	b/	13	11
Others	a/	26	39	46	31	22
Total ...		100	100	100	100	100

* Percentages are based on value of exports. a/ Details not available.
b/ Included in "Others".

PRUNES: Total exports from Yugoslavia by countries of destination, September-February, 1925-26

Destination	Sept. 1,1925 to Feb. 28, 1926	Destination	Sept. 1, 1925 to Feb. 28, 1926
	Short tons		Short tons
Germany	15,432	France	1,378
Italy	7,165	Holland	992
Czechoslovalia	5,291	Denmark	408
Austria	3,638	Other countries	4,222
Switzerland	2,865	Total ...	43,099
Hungary	1,709		

YUGOSLAVIA: Exports of dried prunes, by countries, 1920-1925

Country to which exported	Year ending December 31					
	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria	4,955	14,035	7,897	15,007	4,055	3,627
Belgium	77	0	177	67	25	235
Bulgaria	94	0	11	310	22	0
Czechoslovakia	1/	336	175	2,707	2,838	5,170
Denmark	0	0	11	201	60	416
France	73	402	2,973	2,401	172	1,348
Germany	12,799	20,036	16,521	14,481	4,513	14,377
United Kingdom	113	334	1,507	3,073	744	98
Greece	330	350	658	1,220	343	331
Hungary	2,122	1,094	3,505	2,085	2,263	1,681
Italy	1,208	3,863	7,882	27,281	4,954	6,564
Netherlands...	0	0	639	550	77	1,002
Poland	64	0	12	177	731	303
Rumania	0	23	0	10	257	0
Switzerland ..	1,470	1,763	2,601	3,066	847	2,763
Other countries	128	67	12	548	79	161
Total...	23,433	42,303	44,581	73,184	21,980	38,076

Compiled from report of G. C. Haas, Agricultural Commissioner, Vienna, Austria, April 7, 1926.

1/ Less than ½ ton.

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Compiled from report of G. C. Haas, Agricultural Commissioner, Vienna, Austria, April 7, 1926.

1/ Less than ½ ton.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

May 12, 1926.

F.S.
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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

PRUNE PROSPECTS FAVORABLE IN SOUTHWEST FRANCE

All indications point to an abundant prune crop in southwest France this year according to a mid-April report received by the Department of Agriculture from Consul Lucien C. Memminger at Bordeaux. Conditions during the blossoming period in the producing areas were very favorable. The blossoms were exceptionally abundant and the season is estimated to be from three weeks to a month ahead of normal. Some fear was felt of frosts which have occured as late as early May but a frost sufficiently heavy to damage budding fruit on trees so far advanced would be most unusual, especially if the leaves were sufficiently developed to afford some degree of protection. Frosts occuring at that time of the year usually only affect plant growth near the ground.

Plum tree growers in the Lot-et-Garonne district report that seldom has the season been so well advanced and the conditions more favorable for a good crop. At the present rate of progress the harvest would be ready about August 1st, or about a fortnight earlier than usual.

Among the factors which may still cause a reversal of the present prospects of a bountiful crop are damage from hail storms, and more particularly injury by insect pests and cryptogamic diseases. Production has often been seriously affected by inroads of caterpillars and other parasites. Warm winds at an inauspicious period also have been known to curtail the crop. As the winter has been mild it is through possible that parasitic insects may be numerous this year, but it is believed that there will be less trouble on that score than last year when damage was severe.

Altogether there is a very hopeful feeling among agriculturists in the producing region that the Prune d'Ente crop is going to be exceptionally good. In about three weeks it will be possible to have a fairly good idea of the extent to which the prediction may be realized. Among growers who have faith in the theory that French plum trees produce most plentifully in triennial periods it is pointed out that a good crop this year would be in accord with this view since there was a very good production in the Lot-et-Garonne in 1923 (24,800 short tons dried basis) and poor crops in the two succeeding years.

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August 18, 1926

F.S.
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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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YUGOSLAV PRUNE PROSPECTS

Prune prospects in Yugoslavia continue favorable, according to a cable received in the Department of Agriculture from the Agricultural Commissioner at Berlin. A normal size distribution is expected. Drying will start about the first of September and the first prunes will be on the local markets in Yugoslavia about September 15. The surplus estimate is placed slightly higher with the advancing season and is reported at 4,000 to 4,500 cars (44,000 to 50,000 short tons) as compared with the earlier estimate of 4,000 cars. Prices quoted August 4 at Valjevo for October delivery were as follows:-

Sizes	Dinars per kilo	Cents per pound
70 - 75	6.30	5.05
80 - 85	5.30	4.25
95 - 100	4.25	3.40
110 - 120	3.20	2.56

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September 10, 1926

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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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LARGE FRENCH PRUNE CROP EXPECTED

The 1926 crop of "prunes d'Ente" is expected to total from 13,000 to 17,000 short tons dried basis, according to Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux in a report received by the Department of Agriculture. The general opinion favors the maximum of the above range according to the Consul's report. The estimates of the "Syndicate des Producteurs de Prunes d'Ente" place the crop of "prunes d'Ente" in 1925 at only 1,102 short tons as compared with 5,500 tons in 1924 and 20,390 tons in 1923.

Harvesting of the new crop began about the middle of August but the bulk of the crop was not expected to reach the market before the middle of September. The 1926 crop is reported to be healthy in appearance, comparatively free from worm infestation and possesses highly sugar content, the latter item being attributed to the warm summer weather prevailing during the maturing period. The fruit does not seem to have a heavy proportion of large sizes but exports state that as the plums this year are well sugared and have low water content they are likely to produce good weight when dried and thus increase the proportion of large sizes available for the market.

PROSPECTS FOR THE AMERICAN TRADE

In view of prospects for a crop better than "good average" it would seem that imports from the United States during 1926 will be much below the quantities imported during 1924 and 1925 when the crop was short, says the Consul. A number of packers and importers interviewed stated that they considered purchases from the United States very unlikely in the immediate future. Others express the opinion that a demand for American prunes may arise from the fact that heavy exports of French prunes are expected to be made to Germany, England and Scandinavia. If such proves to be the case the French market may have need for important quantities of California prunes, sizes 30/40 and 40/50, towards the end of December and January, says the Consul.

The actual market prices for the new crop of "prunes d'Ente" cannot be determined until the harvest is further advanced and the first regional market is held at Villeneuve - sur - Lot about August 25, says the Consul. Speculative prices for the new crop are given in the following tabulation. These prices are for goods in unpacked condition at producing centers. The estimated cost for packing in cases of 28 pounds is 50 francs per 100 kgs ($.59 per 100 lbs), but for preparation for sale in the export market the cost of packing, etc. is never less than 100 to 120 francs per 100 kgs ($1.19 to $1.53 per 100 lbs).

French size a/	Francs per 100 kgs	Dollars per 100 lbs b/
60/65	620	7.38
70/75	560	6.66
80/85	500	5.95
90/95	440	5.24
100/110	380	4.52

a/ The French sizes are per pound of 500 grams instead of per pound 495 grams. The equivalent American sizes are 50/60, 60/70, 70/80, 80/90, and 90/100.

b/ Conversions made according to the rate of exchange prevailing on August 1 when the franc was 2.63¢.

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P-18

September 18, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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YUGOSLAV PRUNE EXPORT SURPLUS INCREASED

The latest estimate of the Yugoslavia dried prune export surplus is placed by the Yugoslavia Chamber of Commerce at 5,000 carloads (55,000 short tons) according to a cable to the United States Department of Agriculture from the Agricultural Commissioner at Berlin. Prune estimates have increased as the season advanced, the previous estimate being 4,000 to 4,500 cars (44,000 to 50,000 short tons). The corresponding estimate by the Chamber at this time last season was 4,140 cars (45,600 short tons) while actual exports from September to June amounted to 4,350 to 4,400 cars (47,950 to 48,500 short tons).

The prunes of the 1926 harvest in Yugoslavia are expected to be juicy and fleshy but with a smaller percentage of sugar, according to a report from Consul Patton at Belgrade. The lower sugar content is accounted for by the excessive rains during the growing season. Belgrade merchants believe that slow drying may overcome much of this defect. The weather during the latter part of August was warm and sunny and this was expected to help the normal ripening of the fruit.

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September 27, 1926

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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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SMALL PURCHASES OF YUGOSLAV PRUNES

Foreign purchases of Yugoslav prunes are small as foreign buyers are waiting for more definite information on the quality of the crop, according to a cable from Agricultural Commissioner Haas at Berlin. There seems to be a better demand than last year for large sizes since, with prospects of larger exports, prices for large size prunes are about 35 per cent above last year while prices on small sizes are about 35 per cent below.

Prices of Prunes at Valjevo

Sizes	October 2, 1925 Cents per pound	September 22, 1926 Cents per pound
70/75	3.6	4.9
80/85	3.5	3.9
95/100	3.4	2.9
100/120	3.2	2.1

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September 28, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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FRENCH PRUNE CROP ESTIMATE LESS OPTIMISTIC

Latest estimates of the Prune d'Ente crop of France indicate a crop of approximately 11,000 short tons dried basis compared with 1,102 short tons produced in 1925, reports Consul Memminger. At Bordeaux the quality is said to be very good with a good proportion of large sizes. Previous estimates indicated a crop of 13,000 to 17,000 short tons and this estimate is still held by a few. With harvesting well under way, however, and later information at hand, the inclination is to scale down the early estimate to a considerable extent. The reduction is based largely on the fact that the plums when dried are not giving as heavy a weight as was anticipated. Unfortunately, no system requiring declarations of production is in force and accurate figures of total yield will not be available for some time.

Gathering and drying of plums was well under way at the beginning of September and the large regional markets were about due to open. The true importance of the crop cannot be determined until these markets are in operation. Prices were reported by the Consul to be much lower than last year and because of the quiet state of the French market, were expected to go lower. Quotations for semi-dried and unpacked prunes in the local market at Villeneuve-sur-Lot on September 3 were as follows:

French Size	Francs per 50 kilos	Dollars per 100 pounds
50-55	400 - 420	10.67 - 11.20
60-65	320 - 330	8.53 - 8.80
70-75	250 - 270	6.67 - 7.20
80-85	220 - 230	5.87 - 6.13
90-95	160 - 180	4.27 - 4.80

Cost of additional drying and of packing is estimated to be 40 francs per 50 kilos ($1.07 per 100 pounds).

Due to the low quotations for French prunes compared with those of California, merchants state that it will be difficult to sell large quantities of American prunes in France this year. Recent quotations for Santa Clara prunes (60/70's) were $8.30 per 50 kilos ($7.53 per 100 pounds) in cases of 12½ kilos C.I.F. Bordeaux. This is a decrease of 50 cents per 50 kilos from the opening prices of August 10. French merchants appear more interested in quotations on the larger American sizes such as 30-40 than the other sizes, states Consul Memminger.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

F.S.
~~P-21~~

November 11, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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FRENCH PRUNE CROP LOWER

Estimates of the prune crop of Southwest France have been revised downward and the consensus of opinion now is that the production of prunes in that area will be about 8,800 short tons, according to a recent report from Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. Excessive loss of weight in drying is said to be the principal reason for the reduced estimates. The transfer of the crop from farms to brokers' and packers' warehouses was about completed by the middle of October.

Packers and dealers in the Prune d'Ente region express the opinion that substantial imports of prunes from the United States and possibly from Yugoslavia will be required, particularly during the months of December and January. The French crop as a whole is considered to be of good quality. As the large sizes are exported to a considerable extent, there is expected to be a demand for imports of this category, as well as of other sizes, from the United States. The following table affords a comparison between prices of French, American and Yugoslav prunes in Bordeaux during the latter part of October this year and last. The prices have been converted to American units from figures supplied by Consul Memminger.

Prices per Hundred Pounds of French, American and Yugoslav Prunes in Bordeaux, October 1925 and 1926

American Santa Clara C.I.F. Bordeaux a/			French prunes at station in Lot-et-Garonne a/			Yugoslav prunes laid down Bordeaux, duty not paid b/		
Pack	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1925	Pack	Oct. 1926	Nov. c/ 1925	Pack	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1925
Size	Dollars	Dollars	Size	Dollars	Dollars	Size	Dollars	Dollars
30/40	11.79	-	40/45	15.80	-	-	-	-
40/50	8.51	-	50/55	10.62	-	-	-	-
50/60	7.79	8.96	60/65	8.81	11.85	60/65	-	7.81
60/70	7.75	7.94	70/75	8.03	10.41	70/75	6.99	7.05
70/80	6.70	7.26	80/85	7.51	8.80	80/85	6.08	6.86
80/90	5.97	6.46	90/95	6.73	7.72	95/100	5.28	6.67
90/100	5.44	6.01	100/105	5.18	7.00	110/120	4.20	-

a/ Prunes in cases of 12½ kilos, 27½ pounds.
b/ Prunes in cases of 25 kilos, 55 pounds. Laid down price at Mondane, on French border, plus approximate cost of placing at Bordeaux.
c/ October prices not available.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

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P-22

November 30, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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LATEST ESTIMATES ON FRENCH PRUNE CROP

Although the Prune d'Ente crop is now practically all in brokers' and packers' hands, it is not yet possible to obtain an exact estimate of the yield, according to a report from Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. The yield is variously estimated as between 8,817 and 11,000 short tons, while the Syndicate of French prune merchants at Agen estimates the production at 9,370 short tons. The quality is said to be favorable with a good proportion of large sizes.

In general it is believed by the French prune merchants in the Bordeaux district that the French crop is not sufficient to take care of the usual requirements. Based on past experience, a French prune crop of 9,370 short tons would not take care of the French demand, especially in view of last season's very short crop.

The total French consumption of prunes is stated as averaging between 12,000 and 15,000 short tons annually, but has probably increased in recent years, states Consul Memminger. A considerable part, between 50 and 60 per cent, of the domestic prunes are usually exported and even in years of good crops imports are made for consumption in northern France and also for re-export. During the 1925-26 season about 20,000 short tons of American prunes were imported into France.

There is little or no competition from Yugoslav prunes in the French market at present, says Consul Memminger. The prices on Yugoslav prunes thus far received are considered too high.

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FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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THE YUGOSLAV PRUNE CROP

The 1926 plum crop in Yugoslavia is said to be normal and to have given a yield of approximately 937,000 short tons of fresh fruit, according to a report from Consul K. S. Patton at Belgrade. The fresh fruit was reported to be large and juicy but with a slightly smaller sugar content than usual because of the abnormally cool and rainy weather during the summer. Because of these conditions the plum crop was gathered about three weeks later than normal.

Yield in Dried Prunes Estimated

The production of dried prunes in Yugoslavia depends greatly upon the demand for plum brandy. The 1926 supply of brandy is normal and consequently the quantity of plums available for drying will be a normal proportion of the total yield or about 40 per cent, after the deduction of about 20 per cent of the fresh crop for wastage and domestic consumption of fresh fruit. This indicates a total yield from the 1926 crop of about 83,000 short tons of dried prunes, according to Consul Patton. The quantity of prunes available for export will be between 50,000 and 55,000 short tons. Lower prices, however, might cause a larger part of the output to be consumed locally or converted into brandy, thus reducing the exportable surplus.

Prices of Prunes in Belgrade

The wholesale price of prunes on the Belgrade market on October 30, 1926, compared with November 1, 1925, prices in parentheses, were, in cents per pound: 70's, 5.1 (4.7); 80's, 4.3 (4.6); and 100's, 3.3 (3.8).

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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December 8, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON PRUNES

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THE YUGOSLAV PRUNE MARKET

The foreign demand for Yugoslav dried prunes during October was slack but it was expected that orders for exports would increase during November, according to a report from Consul K. S. Patton dated November 8. The Market Committee has issued an order requiring that all prunes brought to market will have to be inspected and sorted and that those which are not sufficiently well dried will have to be returned to the owners for further drying. The Committee is also enforcing the regulations which stipulate that prunes have to be packed in clean containers and that the weight of each shipment must be verified on municipal scales. Export shipments must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the Market Committee and this makes it practically impossible for exporters to escape the enforcement of these measures. The following table shows the variation in the prices of prunes, f.o.b. Valjevo, during the month of October.

YUGOSLAV PRUNES: Prices per 100 pounds during October 1926

Size	First week	Second week	Third week	Fourth week
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Normal garniture	3.29-3.37	3.37-3.41	3.37	3.49
Large garniture	3.69-3.77	3.77-3.85	3.77	3.89
120/130	2.17	2.49	2.33-2.49	2.33-2.49
110/120	2.41-2.73	2.57-2.65	2.65-2.69	3.45-3.49
95/100	3.21-3.25	3.33-3.37	2.57-2.65	3.45-3.49
80/85	4.14-4.22	4.22-4.46	3.29-3.35	5.10-5.14
70/75	5.06-5.14	5.06-5.14	5.06-5.14	5.06-5.14

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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December 13, 1926

FOREIGN NEWS OF PRUNES

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EXPORTABLE SURPLUS OF YUGOSLAV PRUNES REDUCED

Reports from Yugoslavia indicate a good foreign demand for prunes, particularly from Germany, according to a cable from Agricultural Commissioner Haas at Berlin. A tendency toward higher prices is to be noted. The stocks of large prunes are small and 70/75's are practically gone. The official exports during September and October amounted to 23,986 short tons compared with 23,358 tons last year. Trade reports indicate that exports up to the end of November will amount to about 33,000 short tons. The crop proved to be below early expectations as a result of wet weather late in the season and the exportable surplus is apparently 44,000 to 50,000 short tons compared with last season's exports of between 48,000 and 48,500 short tons. The farm stocks on December 1, according to trade estimates, amounted to between 5,500 and 6,600 short tons with receipts beginning to stop.

The following table shows the prices of prunes in Valjevo on November 10 and December 1:

PRUNES: Prices in Valjevo on November 10 and December 1, 1926

Sizes	November 10, 1926	December 1, 1926
	Cents per pound	Cents per pound
70/75	5.08	5.89
80/85	4.27	4.81
90/95	3.43	3.56
100/120	2.68	2.64
Normal garniture	3.47	3.60
Large garniture	3.87	4.20

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